

3-27-12

Honorable representative:

My name is Leann Brow. I am a Foster Parent of a child with a serious mental health challenge. I believe that all children with mental health challenges should be able to be covered, not just the ones with autism, so therefore the Mental Health Parity laws should be passed.

Why should or would you want to single out children who have a mental illness but tell them it's not bad enough so we can't cover your treatment? That is the same as saying that child is not good enough. All of our children, whether they have a mental health challenge or not should be able to have treatment.

Private insurance already limits our children with mental health challenges, please don't do the same. Give our children a chance. By not including Parity, you're not giving children with mental health challenges a chance. It is already hard enough for them - please don't make it any harder.

These aren't only my children - these are your children as well. So let's work together to raise them and give children with mental health challenges a chance as if they were your very own. You would want that for your children so why not for all children.

I am asking you to please support Mental Health Parity in addition to supporting coverage for children with Autism by including a Mental Health parity bill with SB 414, 415, and 981.

Thank You,

Sincerely

Leann Brow

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